

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 OIC-02 FEAE-00 EB-07

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OASGA

SUBJ: OAS MEETING

REF: STATE 95203

1. I INFORMED FOREIGN MINISTER BLANCO OF THE MAKEUP OF THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE OASGA AND SKED HIS OBSERVATION AS TO MAJOR ITEMS WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT BE DEALT WITH DURING THE PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS OF THE MINISTERS IN ADDITION TO THE QUESTION OF INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM REFORM. THE SUBJECTS WHICH THE MINISTER MENTIONED AND COMMENTED UPON WERE:

- A) INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM REFORM.
- B) PERSPECTIVES AND FUTURE FOR THE NEW DIALOGUE.
- C. THE URUGUAYAN PROPOSED ITEMS ON RAW MATERIAL PRICES VERSUS THE COST OF PETROLEUM.
- D) THE TRADE ACT.
- E) ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL.
- F) CUBA.

2. INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM: ON THIS ISSUE THE MINISTER SAID IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT AGREEMENT BE REACHED IN THE PRIVATE TALKS TO DISPOSE AT LONG LAST OF A PROCESS WHICH HAS TAKEN MORE THAN TWO YEARS OF WORK, ACCUMULATED MASSIVE VOLUMES OF DOCUMENTS AND COST MORE
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THAN \$2 MILLION.MDHERE IS NO POINT, HE SAID, IN GOING ON FOREVER

TO WHERE THE PROBLEM OF THE ORGANIZATION ITSELF AND HQE RIO
TREATY COULD BECOME A POLITICAL ISSUE.

3. NEW DIALOGUE: THE MINISTER HAD NO SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON THIS.
HIS VIEWS ARE WELL KNOWN AS TO PREFERENCE FOR INFORMAL MINISTER-
IAL GET TOGETHERS, OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION AND NON CONFRONTA-
TIONAL DIPLOMACY TO SEEK HARMONIOUS SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

4. RAW MATERIALS PRICES: THIS, BLANCO SAID, RELATES TO THE
SECRETARY'S HOUSTON SPEECH IN THAT PART WHERE HE REFERRED TO FOOD
AND DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION TO THIS END. HE THOUGHT
THE ROUTE PROPOSED WAS GOOD BUT "TOO TIMID". WHAT IS NEEDED, HE
SAID, IS NOT ONLY HELP IN RESEARCH BUT MEANS TO DEAL SPECIFICALLY
WITH THE PROBLEMS OF MARKETS AND PRICES. A RELATED ISSUE, HE
SAID, WAS THAT OF SCIENCE AND THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY.

5. TRADE ACT: BLANCO SAID THIS ISSUE WOULD NOT BE RAISED BY URU-
GUAY BUT CERTAINLY BY OTHERS. URUGUAY'S VIEWS ARE WELL KNOWN.

6. SEC GEN VOTE: BLANCO SAID HE WAS SOMEWHAT CONFUSED AND DIS-
ORIENTED AT THE PRESENT TIME. AS IS KNOWN, URUGUAY WILL SUPPORT
SAPENA PASTOR BUT BLANCO DOES NOT EXPECT HIM TO BE ELECTED.
PROBABLY, ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO COMMITMENT, IN THE NEXT ROUND
URUGUAY WOULD SUPPORT ORFILA IN PREFERENCE TO GARCIA BEDOYA
OR SOME OTHER CANDIDATE. ACTUALLY, HE SAID, HE WOULD HAVE EXPECTED
THE SECRETARY GENERALSHIP THIS TIME TO GO TO ONE OF THE NATIONS
OF THE "NORTHERN TIER". WHAT IS IMPORTANT, HE SAID, IS TO RESOLVE
THIS PROBLEM PRIVATELY AMONG THE MINISTERS SO AS TO AVOID
HAVING TO GO TO AN UNCERTAIN VOTE LATER ON. ONCE
THE COMMITMENT TO SAPENA PASTOR IS FULFILLED, BLANCO WILL REALLY
BE A FREE AGENT, I BELIEVE, ALTHOUGH IF THE ORFILA CANDIDACY IS
PRESSED HE WOULD PROBABLY VOTE FOR HIM.

7. CUBA: URUGUAY'S CONCERNS, OF COURSE, HAVE NOT CHANGED.
THE GOU BELIEVES CUBA CONTINUES INTERVENTIONIST AND SUPPORT
SUBVERSION HERE, AND THAT THIS PROBLEM SHOULD BE SOLVED BEFORE
SANCTIONS ARE LIFTED AND CUBA GIVEN ANY SENSE OF POLITICAL-MORAL
REHABILITATION OR VICTORY. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE, HE SAID, BE-
TWEEN THE U.S. POSITION AS OUTLINED IN THE SECRETARY'S HOUSTON
SPEECH AND THE URUGUAYAN POSITION. THE U.S., HE SAID, WOULD GO
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ALONG WITH THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS FIRST AND THEN DETERMINE
WHAT KIND OF RELATIONS IF ANY MIGHT BE DEVELOPED WITH CUBA. URU-
GUAY, HE SAID, PUT IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND: EVIDENCE T;:7?-S
CHANGE IN WAYS--AND THIS WOULD REQUIRE SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS--NOT
JUST WORDS--SHOULD COME BEFORE THE SANCTIONS ARE LIFTED.

3. WHILE NOTS BEING AN AGENDA ITEM, BLANCO SAID HE THOUGHT THE
MINISTERS MIGHT DISCUSS--POSSIBLY IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CUBA

ISSUE BUT NOT NECESSARILY SO--THE GENERAL PROBLEM OF TERRORISM IN THE WORLD AND HOW THIS EFFECTS GOVERNMENTS AND CEIR ACTIONS. HE SAID THE PROBLEM OF TUPAMAROS HAD NOT BEEN REALLY UNDERSTOOD ABROAD AND THIS COUNTRY HAS COME IN FOR SOME CRITICISM BECAUSE OF ITS EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THEM AND THEIR PARTICULAR FORM OF AGRESSION. SUCH CRITICISM HAS LABELED THE GOVERNMENT TO BE RIGHT WING, REACTIONARY, OR EVEN FASCIST WHICH HE SAID IS TOTALLY UNDESERVED AND REFLECTS NO REAL UNDERSTANDING. WHAT IS CLEAR, HE SAID, IS THAT THE TERRORISM--HE NOTED RECENT EVENTS IN COLOMBIA, MEXICO, SWEDEN AND IN THE UK--SHOWS THAT IT CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE AND TO GOVERNMENTS WHICH ARE LIBERAL, LABOR, OF LEFTIST AND NOT ONLY IN THOSE WHICH CAN BE CALLED CONSERVATIVE. THUS IT IS AN ERROR, HE SAID, TO CLAIM THAT INTERNAL CONDITIONS AND INJUSTICE CAUSE TERRORISM. THE ONLY PLACE HE NOTED WHERE SUCH THINGS NEVER SEEM TO HAPPEN IS IN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WHERE INJUSTICE IS REAL AND THIS, HE NOTED, PROVIDED FOOD FOR THOUGHT. HE HAD NOTHING REALLY SPECIDYC IN MIND BUT, I THINK, IS OBVIOUSLY SENSITIVE TO CRITICISM OF URUGUAY ON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUNDS AND WAS REFLECTING THIS. HE DID NOT USE THE WORD CONSPIRACY BUT HE CLEARLY IMPLIED THAT THESE DANGEROUS AND UNSETTLING AGGRESSIVE ATTACKS IN COUNTRIES OR ON GOVERNMENTS OF VARIED POLITICAL INCLINATIONS SOME WAY HAVE THEIR ORIGIN WITHIN THE COMMUNIST WORLD.

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